

MEA

- own heart may tell you that there is something amiss, nor over-scrupulously pursue it when you are not conscious to yourself of notable failings. *Taylor's Guide to a Penitent.*
- The rains were but preparatory in some measure, and the violence and conflagration of the deluge depended upon the disruption of the great abyss. *Burnet's Theory of the Earth.*
8. Proportionate time; musical time.
- Amaryllis breathes thy secret pains,
And thy fond heart beats measure to thy strains. *Prior.*
9. Motion harmonically regulated.
- My legs can keep no measure in delight,
When my poor heart no measure keeps in grief:
Therefore no dancing, girl, some other sport. *Shakeſp.*
- As when the stars in their æthereal race,
At length have roll'd around the liquid space,
From the same point of heav'n their course advance,
And move in measures of their former dance. *Dryden.*
10. A stately dance. This sense is, I believe, obsolete.
- Wooing, wedding, and repenting, is as a Scotch jig, a measure and a cinque pace; the first suit is hot and haſty, like a Scotch jig, and full as fantastical; the wedding mannerly, modest as a measure, full of state and anarchy. *Shakeſp.*
- Now are our brows bound with victorious wreaths,
Our stern alarms chang'd to merry meetings,
Our dreadful marches to delightful measures. *Shakeſp.*
11. Moderation; not excess.
- O love, be moderate, allay thy ecſtaſy;
In measure rein thy joy, ſcant this exceſs;
I feel too much thy bleſſing, make it leſs,
For fear I ſurfeit. *Shakeſp. Merchant of Venice.*
- Hell hath enlarged herſelf, and opened her mouth without measure. *Iſa. vi. 14.*
12. Limit; boundary. In the ſame ſenſe is
- Τρεῖς ἱεῖρες δεκάδας τριτάδας δύο, μέτρον ἱεῖρας
Ἡμετέρας διότις μετρίως αἰσθάνοιτο.
Ἀρσένιος τριτάδιον.
- Lord, make me to know mine end, and the measure of my days what it is, that I may know how frail I am. *Pſal.*
13. Any thing adjusted.
- He only lived according to nature, the other by ill customs, and measures taken by other mens eyes and tongues. *Taylor's holy living.*
- Chriſt reveals to us the measures according to which God will proceed in diſpenſing his rewards. *Smalbridge's Sermons.*
14. Syllables metrically numbered; metre.
- I addreſſed them to a lady, and affected the ſoftneſs of expreſſion, and the ſmoothneſs of measure, rather than the height of thought. *Dryden.*
- The numbers themſelves, though of the heroick measure, ſhould be the ſmoothest imaginable. *Pope.*
15. Tune; proportionate notes.
- The joyous nymphs and light-foot fairies,
Which thrifter came to hear their muſic ſweet,
And to the measures of their melodies
Did learn to move their nimble-ſhifting feet. *Spenser.*
16. Mean of action; mean to an end.
- His majeſty found what wrong measures he had taken in the conſenting that truſt, and lamented his error. *Clarendon.*
17. To have hard measure; to be hardly dealt by.
- To MEASURE. *v. a.* [*meſurer*, French; *meſure*, Latin.]
1. To compute the quantity of any thing by ſome ſettled rule.
- Archidamus having received from Philip, after the victory of Chæroneia, proud letters, writ back, that if he meaſured his own ſhadow he would find it no longer than it was before his victory. *Bacon's Apophth.*
2. To paſs through; to judge of extent by marching over.
- A true devoted pilgrim is not weary
To measure kingdoms with his feeble ſteps. *Shakeſp.*
- I'll tell thee all my whole device
At the park-gate; and therefore haſte away,
For we muſt measure twenty miles to-day. *Shakeſp.*
- The veſſel ploughs the ſea,
And measures back with ſpeed her former way. *Dryden.*
3. To judge of quantity or extent, or greatneſs.
- Great are thy works, Jehovah; infinite
Thy pow'r! What thought can measure thee, or tongue
Relate thee? *Milton's Par. Loſt, b. vii.*
4. To adjust; to proportion.
- To ſecure a contented ſpirit, measure your deſires by your fortunes, not your fortunes by your deſires. *Taylor.*
- Silver is the inſtrument by which he gets for any commodity in exchange that he measures the value of the commodity he ſells. *Locke.*
5. To mark out in ſtated quantities.
- What thou ſeeſt is that portion of eternity which is called time, meaſured out by the ſun, and reaching from the beginning of the world to its conſummation. *Antiſon's Spectator.*
6. To allot or diſtribute by measure.

MEC

- With what measure you mete, it ſhall be meaſured to you again. *Matth. vii. 2.*
- MEASURELESS. *adj.* [*from meaſure*.] Immeſe; immeaſurable.
- He ſhut up the meaſureleſs content. *Shakeſp.*
- MEASUREMENT. *n. ſ.* [*from meaſure*.] Meaſuration; act of meaſuring.
- MEASURER. *n. ſ.* [*from meaſure*.] One that meaſures.
- MEASURING. *adj.* [*from meaſure*.] It is applied to a caſt not to be diſtinguiſhed in its length from another but by meaſuring.
- When luſty ſhepherds throw
The bar by turns, and none the reſt out-go
So far, but that the beſt are meaſuring caſts,
Their emulation and their paſtime laſts. *Wallr.*
- MEAT. *n. ſ.* [*met*, French.]
1. Fleſh to be eaten.
- To his father he ſent ten the aſſes laden with corn, and bread, and meat, for his father by the way. *Gen. xlv. 23.*
- Carnivore, and birds of prey, are no good meat; but the reaſon is, rather the cholerick nature of theſe birds than their feeding upon fleſh; for pewets and ducks feed upon fiſh, and yet are good meat. *Bacon's Nat. Hiſt. No. 859.*
- There was a multitude of exciſes; as, the veſtigal macelli, a tax upon meat. *Arbutnot.*
2. Food in general.
- Never words were muſick to thine ear,
And never meat ſweet-favour'd in thy taſte,
Unleſs I ſpoke or car'd. *Shakeſp. Comedy of Errors.*
- Meats for the belly, and the belly for meats; but God ſhall deſtroy both. *I Cor. vi. 13.*
- MEATED. *adj.* [*from meat*.] Fed; foddered.
- Strong oxen and horſes, wel ſhod and wel clad,
Wel meated and uſed. *Tuſſer's Huſb.*
- MEATHE. *n. ſ.* [*meath*, Welſh, unde *mede*, meddwi ebrius ſum.] Drink.
- For drink the grape
She cruſhes, inoffenſive muſt, and meathes
From many a berry. *Milton's Par. Loſt, b. v.*
- MEAZLING. *part.* generally called *mizzling*. See *Mizzle*.
- The air feels more moist when the water is in ſmall than in great drops; in meazling and ſoaking rain, than in great ſhowers. *Arbutnot on Air.*
- MECHANICAL. *adj.* [*mechanicus*, Lat. *mechanique*, French; *MECHANICK*.] *ſ.* [*from μηχανική*.]
1. Mean; ſervile; of mean occupation.
- Know you not, being mechanical, you ought not walk upon a labouring day, without the ſign of your profeſſion? *Shak.*
- Hang him, mechanical ſalt-butter rogue; I will ſtare him out of his wits; I will hew him with my cudgel. *Shakeſp.*
- Mechanick ſlaves,
With greaſy aprons, rules, and hammers, ſhall
Uplift us to the view. *Shakeſp. Ant. and Cleopatra.*
- To make a god, a hero, or a king,
Deſcend to a mechanical dialeſt. *Rowſon.*
2. Conſtructed by the laws of mechanics.
- Many a fair precept in poetry is, like a ſeeming demonſtration in mathematics, very ſpecious in the diagram, but failing in the mechanical operation. *Dryden.*
- The main buſineſs of natural philoſophy, is to argue from phenomena without feigning hypotheſes, and to deduce cauſes from effects till we come to the very fiſt cauſe, which certainly is not mechanical; and not only to unfold the mechanism of the world, but chiefly to reſolve theſe, and ſuch like queſtions. *Newton's Opticks.*
3. Skilled in mechanics.
- MECHANICK. *n. ſ.* A manufacturer; a low workman.
- Do not bid me
Diſmiſs my ſoldiers, or capitulate *Shakeſp. Coriolanus.*
- Again with Rome's mechanicks. *Shakeſp.*
- A third proves a very heavy philoſopher, who poſſibly would have made a good mechanick, and have done well enough at the uſeful philoſophy of the ſpade or the anvil. *South.*
- MECHANICKS. *n. ſ.* [*mechanica*, Latin.]
- Dr. Wallis defines *mechanicks* to be the geometry of motion, a mathematical ſcience, which ſhews the effects of powers, or moving forces, ſo far as they are applied to engines, and demonſtrates the laws of motion. *Horriſ.*
- The rudiments of geography, with ſomething of *mechanicks*, may be eaſily conveyed into the minds of acute young perſons. *Watſ's Improvement of the Mind.*
- Salomoneus was a great proficient in *mechanicks*, and inventor of a veſſel which imitated thunder. *Braune.*
- MECHANICALLY. *adv.* [*from mechanick*.] According to the laws of mechanick.
- They ſuppoſe even the common animals that are in beings to have been formed mechanically among the reſt. *Ray.*
- Later philoſophers feign hypotheſes for explaining all things mechanically, and refer other cauſes to metaphyſicks. *Newton.*

MECHANICALNESS.

MED

- MECHANICALNESS. *n. ſ.* [*from mechanick*.]
1. Agreeableneſs to the laws of mechanick.
2. Meanneſs.
- MECHANICIAN. *n. ſ.* [*mechanicien*, French.] A man profeſſing or ſtudying the conſtruction of machines.
- Some were figured like male, others like female ſcrews, as *mechanicians* ſpeak. *Boyle.*
- MECHANISM. *n. ſ.* [*mechanisme*, French.]
1. Action according to mechanick laws.
- After the chyle has paſſed through the lungs, nature continues her uſual *mechanism*, to convert it into animal ſubſtances. *Arbutnot on Aliments.*
- He acknowledges nothing beſides matter and motion; ſo that all muſt be performed either by *mechanism* or accident, either of which is wholly unaccountable. *Bentley.*
2. Conſtruction of parts depending on each other in any complicated fabrick.
- MECHANICAN. *n. ſ.*
- Mechacan* is a large root, twelve or fourteen inches long, and of the thickneſs of a man's wrift, uſually divided into two branches at the bottom: what we ſee of it is commonly cut tranſverſely into ſlices for the convenience of drying it: its fiſt introduction into Europe was about two hundred and twenty years ago: it is brought from the province of *Mechacan* in South America, from whence it has its name: the plant which affords it is a ſpecies of bindweed, and its ſtalks, which are angular, and full of a refinous milky juice, climb upon every thing which ſtands near them: the root in powder is a gentle and mild purgative. *Hill's Mat. Med.*
- MEDICINUM. *n. ſ.* [*medicinus*.]
1. Expreſſed juice of poppy.
2. The fiſt excrement of children.
- Infants new-born have a *meconium*, or fort of dark-coloured excrement in the bowels. *Arbutnot on Diet.*
- MEDAL. *n. ſ.* [*medaille*, Fr. probably from *metallum*, Lat.]
1. An ancient coin.
- The Roman medals were their current money: when an action deſerved to be recorded on a coin, it was ſtamped, and iſſued out of the mint. *Arbutnot on Diet. No. 96.*
2. A piece ſtamped in honour of ſome remarkable performance.
- MEDALLICK. *n. ſ.* [*from medal*.] Pertaining to medals.
- You will never, with all your medallick eloquence, perſuade Eugenius, that it is better to have a pocketful of Otho's than of Jacobus's. *Addiſon on ancient Medals.*
- MEDALLION. *n. ſ.* [*medaillon*, Fr.] A large antique ſtamp or medal.
- Medallions, in reſpect of the other coins, were the ſame as modern medals in reſpect of modern money. *Addiſon.*
- MEDALLIST. *n. ſ.* [*medalliste*, Fr.] A man ſkilled or curious in medals.
- In the language of a medallist, you are not to look upon a cabinet of medals as a treaſure of money, but of knowledge. *Addiſon on ancient Medals.*
- To MEDDLE. *v. n.* [*middelen*, Dutch.]
1. To have to do: in this ſenſe it is always followed by *with*.
- It is reported that caſſia, when gathered, is put into the ſkins of beaſts newly ſlayered, which breeding worms, they devour the pith and marrow, and ſo make it hollow; but meddle not with the back, becauſe it is bitter. *Bacon.*
- With the power of it upon the ſpirits of men we will only meddle. *Bacon's Nat. Hiſt. No. 945.*
- I have thus far been an upright judge, not meddling with the deſign nor diſpoſition. *Dryden.*
2. To interpoſe; to act in any thing.
- For my part, I'll not meddle nor make any farther. *Shak.*
- In every turn of ſtate, without meddling on either ſide, he has always been favourable to merit. *Dryden.*
- The civil lawyers have pretended to determine concerning the ſucceſſion of princes; but, by our author's principles, have meddled in a matter that belongs not to them. *Locke.*
- What haſt thou to do to meddle with the affairs of my family? to diſpoſe of my eſtate, old boy? *Arbutnot.*
3. To interpoſe or intervene importunately or officiouſly.
- Why ſhould'ſt thou meddle to thy hurt. *2 Kings xiv. 10.*
- It is an honour for a man to ceaſe from ſtrife; but every fool will be meddling. *Prov. xx. 3.*
- This meddling prieſt longs to be found a fool. *Rowe.*
- Let me ſhake off th' intrusive cares of day,
And lay the meddling ſenſes all aſide. *Thomſon's Winter.*
- To MEDDLE. *v. a.* [*from meſſer*, Fr.] To mix; to mingle.
- A meddled ſtate of the orders of the goſpel, and the ceremonies of popery, is not the beſt way to baniſh popery. *Hosker, b. iv.*
- He that had well ycon'd his lere,
Thus meddled his talk with many a teare. *Spenser.*
- MEDDLER. *n. ſ.* [*from meddle*.] One who buſies himſelf with things in which he has no concern.
- Do not drive away ſuch as bring thee information, as meddlers, but accept of them in good part. *Bacon.*
- This may be applied to thoſe that aſſume to themſelves

MED

- the merits of other mens ſervices, *meddlers*, boaſters, and impertinents. *L'Eſtrange.*
- MEDDLESOME. *adj.* Intermeddling: as, a meddlesome buſy body. *Ainſ.*
- MEDIASTINE. *n. ſ.* [*French*; *mediſtimum*, Latin.] The ſtimulated body about which the guts are convolved.
- None of the membranes which inveſt the inſide of the breaſt but may be the ſeat of this diſeaſe, the *mediſtine* as well as the *pleura*. *Arbutnot on Diet.*
- To MEDIATE. *v. n.* [*from medius*, Latin.]
1. To interpoſe as an equal friend to both parties; to act indifferently between contending parties; to intercede.
- The corruption of manners in the world, we ſhall find owing to ſome mediating ſchemes that offer to comprehend the different intereſts of ſin and religion. *Rogers.*
2. To be between two.
- By being crowded, they exclude all other bodies that before mediated between the parts of their body. *Digby.*
- To MEDIATE. *v. a.*
1. To form by mediation.
- The earl made many profeſſions of his deſire to interpoſe, and mediate a good peace between the nations. *Clarendon.*
- I poſſeſs chemiſts and corporularians of advantages by the confederacy I am mediating between them. *Boyle.*
2. To limit by ſomething in the middle.
- They ſtyled a double ſtep, that is, the ſpace from the elevation of one foot to the ſame foot ſet down again, mediated by a ſtep of the other foot a pace equal to five feet. *Holder on Time.*
- MEDIATE. *adj.* [*mediat*, French; *medius*, Latin.]
1. Interpoſed; intervening.
- Soon the mediate clouds ſhall be diſpell'd;
The ſun ſhall ſoon be face to face beheld. *Prior.*
2. Middle; between two extremes.
- Anxious we hover in a mediate ſtate,
Betwixt infinity and nothing. *Prior.*
2. Acting as a means. Unuſual.
- The moſt important care of a new and vigorous king, was his marriage for mediate eſtabliſhment of the royal line. *Watſon's Life of Buckingham.*
- MEDIATELY. *adv.* [*from mediate*.] By a ſecondary cauſe; in ſuch a manner that ſomething acts between the fiſt cauſe and the laſt effect.
- God worketh all things amongſt us *mediately* by ſecondary means; the which means of our ſafety being ſhipping and ſea-forces, are to be eſteemed as his gifts, and then only available and beneficial when he vouchſafeth his grace to uſe them aright. *Raleigh's Eſſays.*
- Peſtilent contagion is propagated immediately by converſing with infected perſons, and *mediately* by peſtilent ſeminaries propagated through the air. *Harvey on Conſumptions.*
- MEDIATION. *n. ſ.* [*mediation*, French, from *medius*, Lat.]
1. Interpoſition; intervention; agency between two parties, praſticed by a common friend.
- Some nobler token I have kept apart
For Livia and Octavia, to induce
Their mediation. *Shakeſp. Antony and Cleopatra.*
- Noble offices thou may'ſt effect
Of mediation, after I am dead.
Between his greatneſs and thy other brethren. *Shakeſp.*
- The king fought unto them to compoſe thoſe troubles between him and his ſubjects; they accordingly interpoſed their mediation in a round and princely manner. *Bacon.*
2. Agency; an intervenient power.
- The paſſions have their reſidence in the ſenſitive appetite: for inſmuch as man is a compound of fleſh as well as ſpirit, the ſoul, during its abode in the body, does all things by the mediation of theſe paſſions. *South's Serm.*
- It is utterly unconceivable, that inanimate brute matter, without the mediation of ſome immaterial being, ſhould operate upon other matter without mutual contact. *Bentley.*
3. Interceſſion; entreaty for another.
- MEDIATOR. *n. ſ.* [*mediateur*, French.]
1. One that intervenes between two parties.
- You had found by experience the trouble of all mens conſcience, and for all matters to yourſelf, as a mediator between them and their ſovereign. *Bacon's Advice to Villiers.*
2. An interceſſor; an entreater for another; one who uſes his influence in favour of another.
- It is againſt the ſenſe of the law, to make ſaints or angels to be mediators between God and them. *Stillingfleet.*
3. One of the characters of our bleſſed Saviour.
- Man's friend, his mediator, his deſign'd,
Both ranſom and redeemer voluntary. *Milton.*
- MEDIATORIAL. *adj.* [*from mediator*.] Belonging to a mediator.
- MEDIATORY. *ſ.* diator.
- All other effects of Chriſt's mediatorial office are accounted for from the truth of his reſurrection. *Fiddes's Sermons.*
- MEDIATORSHIP. *n. ſ.* [*from mediator*.] The office of a mediator.
- MEDIAATRIX. *n. ſ.* [*mediatrix*, Lat.] A female mediator. *Ainſ.*
- ME'DIC.